

To whom it may concern,

I am distraught and frustrated by the failure of the USDA to provide a user friendly *start up* farm service which initiates 'new farmers'. Subsequently, I am writing at your request to discuss the possibility of change. Change means that people like myself can create a business plan, start and implement an organic garden, have small farm animals and employ collaborative community agencies to help 'work a farm'. I have adequate knowledge base to develop a comprehensive program for this purpose, and I am motivated to learn organic/sustainable farming. At my disposal I have unlimited resources from the entire 4-H Co-operative extension at UNH in NH. As a 4-H member, and a health care professional, I intend to collaborate with mentors and peers who are 'seniors'. This community based co-operative business is in need of finances for start up cost. The senior mentors I am working with actually grew up on farms and could probably teach all of us a thing or two about farming. Since speaking with the USDA officials in this state, (on more than one occasion), my idea(s) are not well received. Infact, I have been told that 'we' can't start a farm because 'we don't know what we're doing'. GIVE ME A BREAK.

Warm regards,

Lynn Reinecker Cote RN RRT MEd

Manchester, NH

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns

From: lynncote19@msn.com%inter2 [lynncote19@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, December 09, 2005 12:55 AM
To: FarmBill
Subject: Farm Bill
Attachments: tmp.htm